

CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

Claim 1 (Canceled).

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): ~~The A~~ multifunctional ladle ~~as recited in~~
~~claim 4~~, comprising:

a handle;

a ladle body connected to one end of the handle;

a strainer ladle, which is matched with the ladle body and engaged with the
ladle body; and

a controlling device, coupled to said strainer ladle, and which includes a
control switch located on said handle, the control switch being slidable along the
handle to a first position where the strainer ladle separates from the ladle body,
and to a second position where the strainer ladle nests within the ladle body to
combine the strainer ladle with the ladle body,

wherein when the strainer ladle is separated from the ladle body, the
strainer ladle is positioned to strain solids from a liquid, with the liquid flowing
through the strainer ladle and into the ladle body;

wherein when the strainer ladle is nested within the ladle body, the strainer
ladle and the ladle body conjointly act as a ladle;

wherein the strainer ladle is invertible relative to the ladle body, by turning
over the strainer ladle, relative to the ladle body, by hand; and

wherein a perforated drain hole is formed on a bottom of the ladle body, and a projection is provided on a bottom of the strainer ladle, which corresponds to the drain hole, so that the drain hole is exactly blocked by the projection when the control switch is in the second position.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): ~~The~~ A multifunctional ladle ~~as recited in claim 4,~~ comprising:

a handle;

a ladle body connected to one end of the handle;

a strainer ladle, which is matched with the ladle body and engaged with the ladle body; and

a controlling device, coupled to said strainer ladle, and which includes a control switch located on said handle, the control switch being slidable along the handle to a first position where the strainer ladle separates from the ladle body, and to a second position where the strainer ladle nests within the ladle body to combine the strainer ladle with the ladle body,

wherein when the strainer ladle is separated from the ladle body, the strainer ladle is positioned to strain solids from a liquid, with the liquid flowing through the strainer ladle and into the ladle body;

wherein when the strainer ladle is nested within the ladle body, the strainer ladle and the ladle body conjointly act as a ladle;

wherein the strainer ladle is invertible relative to the ladle body, by turning over the strainer ladle, relative to the ladle body, by hand; and

wherein the controlling device includes a rod member, one end of which is connected to the control switch and another end of which is connected to the strainer ladle,

wherein the controlling device further includes a spring disposed inside of the handle, and which acts against the rod member to urge the control switch to the second position, and

wherein an elastic device is disposed between the another end of the rod member and the strainer ladle.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The multifunctional ladle as recited in claim 3, wherein the strainer ladle has a short handle, and a screw boss disposed on a back of the short handle, the handle having a positioning hole, the screw boss being inserted into the positioning hole and fixed to the rod member by a fixing device, and wherein the elastic device is sleeved over the screw boss.

Claim 5 (canceled).

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The multifunctional ladle as recited in claim 4, wherein the positioning hole is adjacent to the ladle body.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The multifunctional ladle as recited in claim 3, wherein the elastic device is a coil spring or a U-shaped spring.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The multifunctional ladle as recited in claim 2 ~~claim 1~~, wherein the strainer ladle has a concave shape, and has a plurality of arched and/or circular holes, a bottom centre of the strainer ladle being a solid circle member having a diameter of a chicken's egg yolk.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The multifunctional ladle as recited in claim 3, wherein any one of the handle, the ladle body, the strainer ladle and the rod member is made of a material selected from the group consisting of steel, stainless steel, wood, plastics, rubber, iron, copper, silver, gold, aluminum, aluminum alloy, zinc, zinc alloy, or nickel.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The multifunctional ladle as recited in claim 2, wherein the controlling device includes a rod member, one end of which is connected to the control and another end of which is connected to the strainer ladle,

wherein the controlling device further includes a spring disposed inside of the handle, and which acts against the rod member to urge the control switch to the second position, and

wherein an elastic device is disposed between the another end of the rod member and the strainer ladle.

Claims 11 and 12 (Canceled).

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The multifunctional ladle as recited in claim 10, wherein the strainer ladle has a short handle, and a screw boss disposed on a back of the short handle, the handle having a positioning hole, the screw boss being inserted into the positioning hole and fixed to the rod member by a fixing device, and wherein the elastic device is sleeved over the screw boss

Claims 14-18 (canceled).

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The multifunctional ladle as recited in claim 13, wherein the positioning hole is adjacent to the ladle body.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The multifunctional ladle as recited in claim 2, wherein the strainer ladle has a concave shape, and has a plurality of arched and/or circular holes, a center of the bottom of the strainer ladle being a solid circle member having a diameter of a chicken's egg yolk.

Claim 21 (Canceled).

AMENDMENT

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Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The multifunctional ladle as recited in claim 10, wherein any one of the handle, the ladle body, the strainer ladle and the rod member is made of a material selected from the group consisting of steel, stainless steel, wood, plastics, rubber, iron, copper, silver, gold, aluminum, aluminum alloy, zinc, zinc alloy, or nickel.